

Work Plan Revised May 31, 2007

National Wraparound Initiative “Family Partner” Task Force

Co-chairs: Marlene Penn mpenn8@aol.com & Trina W. Osher tosher3@comcast.net

Task List	Status as of June 2007
<p>1. Choose a name or title for the parent partner role in the context of the National Wraparound Initiative vs. other settings. Preface all products that families are not limited to this role in wraparound but can, when they have the interest, knowledge, and skills, successfully perform many other roles.</p>	<p>Based on responses to a questionnaire sent to the Family Partner Task Force, a working title for this role and a brief description of it has been developed.</p> <p><i>“The Family Partner is a formal member of the wraparound team whose role is to serve the family and help them engage and actively participate on the team and make informed decisions that drive the process. Family Partners have a strong connection to the community and are very knowledgeable about resources, services, and supports for families. The Family Partner’s personal experience is critical to their earning the respect of families and establishing a trusting relationship that the family values.”</i></p>
<p>2. Identify the characteristics of the role including both the description of the job responsibilities and the personal qualities and skills necessary to do the work.</p>	<p>This work has been tied to the Ten Principles of Wraparound. Two rounds of input from the Family Partner Task Force have been completed. A third draft of the document is ready for circulation to the full NWI Task Force.</p>
<p>3. Use the National Wraparound Initiative process to gather reactions, comments, and other feedback on the developed title and descriptive materials.</p>	<p>With assistance from April Sather, an on line survey was used to collect feedback for Tasks 1 and 2 as materials were being developed. This practice will continue as materials are refined and new materials are developed.</p>

Work Plan Revised May 31, 2007

National Wraparound Initiative “Family Partner” Task Force

Co-chairs: Marlene Penn mpenn8@aol.com & Trina W. Osher tosher3@comcast.net

Task List	Status as of June 2007
<p>4. Create a data bank of resources about this role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Collect existing material such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Job descriptions, ii. Skill sets, iii. Training programs, iv. Descriptions of how the role functions in a program or project, and v. How individuals are supervised. b. Establish a review process for examples collected that is similar to the one used for all other tools posted to the National Wraparound Initiative Website. c. Integrate the collected materials with the four phases of wraparound. 	<p>Task Force members have been asked to submit materials they have developed or used. Collection is ongoing. Items should be sent electronically if possible to April Sather. sather@u.washington.edu</p> <p>Some items related to family partners have been posted to the NWI website and reviewed. April will continue to collect items.</p> <p>Previous tasks 4, 5, and 6 have been combined into one as they are interrelated. A work group has been organized (Lisa Conlan, Susan Boehrer, Pat Mosby, Tammie Harrison, Ally Linfoot) to tackle a variety of issues associated with this work including (but not limited to) how to catalogue the collected materials so users can easily find what they need and how to make sure submitted materials are consistent with NWI principles.</p>

Work Plan Revised May 31, 2007

National Wraparound Initiative “Family Partner” Task Force

Co-chairs: Marlene Penn mpenn8@aol.com & Trina W. Osher tosher3@comcast.net

Task List	Status as of June 2007
<p>5. Integrate the activities of a family partner with the four phases of wraparound.</p>	<p>Task Force members have been asked to submit input about what family partners actually do during each of the four phases. A structure for organizing their ideas has been developed and distributed to Family Partner Task Force members. More work on this will be done at the annual meeting.</p> <p>Additional work was not done as planned at the annual meeting. Family Partner Task Force members agreed to respond via e-mail. April will send everyone an electronic form to return to her along with a link to the full Phases document on the NWI website. She will compile all the responses. Task Force Co-chairs (Marlene Penn and Trina Osher) will continue to take responsibility for coordinating review, discussion, and revision of this tool.</p>
<p>6. Describe strategies for linking individuals who serve in this role with family organizations to sustain and support the role in the community and creating a web-based strategy for family partners to link with a group of their peers for support and sharing.</p>	<p>Not started. The Family Partner Task Force felt this was a critical task but required technical skills and needed to address some ethical issues. In addition, it should be linked with the work of the Dissemination Task Force. One member (Heidi Todd) agreed to tackle some of the issues and work on the linkage to dissemination.</p>

Work Plan Revised May 31, 2007

National Wraparound Initiative “Family Partner” Task Force

Co-chairs: Marlene Penn mpenn8@aol.com & Trina W. Osher tosher3@comcast.net

Task List	Status as of June 2007
7. Develop tools to assess the quality with which individuals are performing this role as well as the outcomes from having this role in the community.	Not started. The Family Partner Task Force agreed that this task is closely related to the work of the Standards Task Force. One member indicated her state (MD) has developed standards; another indicated her state (OR) was on the verge of beginning to do so. Ally Linfoot agreed to be the point person on this for now recognizing that until other tasks were completed it would not be realistic to tackle this one.
8. Develop a framework for developing salary schedules and defining of work environment and employment issues such as benefits, liability, flexible working hours, supervision, career ladders, growth opportunities, and different roles families can take on in wraparound. Related to this are the differences when family partners are employed by a family organization or a provider agency.	Not started. This task was identified as a high need. A work group was formed (Janine Lounsbery, Lynette Tolliver, Renee Rich, and Pam Hawkins) to collect existing materials and draft a framework for the full Task Force to consider and review. There is a close relationship of this work to the work of the Workforce Taskforce.
9. Establish a research agenda in conjunction with researchers.	Not started. The Family Partner Task Force agreed that this task should be dropped and families should become members of the Research Task Force to insure that family stories about their wraparound journey are incorporated into research and become part of the evidence base.
10. Describe the context for the family partner as being	The Family Partner Task Force identified two serious

Work Plan Revised May 31, 2007

National Wraparound Initiative “Family Partner” Task Force

Co-chairs: Marlene Penn mpenn8@aol.com & Trina W. Osher tosher3@comcast.net

Task List	Status as of June 2007
<p>one of many roles that families can and should take on in wraparound.</p>	<p>concerns that are opposite sides of the same issue. One is that family partners will become the only role for families in wraparound and the other is that partnership with families will become the sole responsibility of family partners. To clarify that neither of these situations is consistent with the principles of wraparound nor are they sound practice of wraparound, the Task Force Co-chairs (Marlene Penn and Trina Osher) have been charged with drafting “The ROLES for Families in Wraparound” for full Task Force response.</p>

The Family Partner Task Force proposed that the National Wraparound Initiative establish a new task force to examine issues of family leadership and partnership with families. While there is overlap with the work of the Family Partner Task Force, the issues of leadership and partnership go well beyond the scope of defining the specific role of the family partner in wraparound.